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March 31, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

**Re: South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff's Motion to Solicit Comments from
Utilities and Other Interested Stakeholders Regarding Measures to Be Taken
to Mitigate Impact of Threats to Safe and Reliable Utility Service
Docket No.: 2021-66-A**

Response to ORS Final Report

Dear Ms. Boyd:

On December 31, 2021, ORS filed its final report on the Resiliency of South Carolina's Electric and Natural Gas Infrastructure Against Extreme Winter Storm Events (the "Final Report"). The Final Report communicates ORS's findings related to its South Carolina power grid review based on information provided by approximately 65 utility providers. On January 31, 2022, ORS filed a letter requesting feedback on the recommendations contained in the Final Report by no later than March 31, 2022. Per ORS's request, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ("DEC") and Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("DEP" and together with DEC, the "Companies") provide the below comments in response to the Final Report for ORS's and the Commission's consideration.

The Companies reiterate their support of the findings of ORS and the assessment conducted by Guidehouse, Inc. The Companies have been carefully reviewing the recommendations included in the Final Report to determine which recommendations are applicable to DEC and DEP and where improvements can be made. The Companies further note that they are continually working to improve and harden the electric grid for the benefit of their customers across the Carolinas and appreciate the insight provided by the Final Report in determining areas of potential improvement. The Companies believe the Final Report shows that the Companies are prepared for the impacts that can result from extreme events – such as severe winter weather – and supports the Companies' continued investment in measures that will harden the grid.

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With respect to ORS's recommendation that South Carolina should form a task force to evaluate the voluntary adoption of practices comparable to those recently adopted in Texas, the Companies are supportive of this recommendation. Given the purpose of the task force would be to evaluate potential reliability or resiliency solutions rather than to evaluate or create policy, the Companies suggest the task force be comprised of members with a technical, engineering, and/or operational background. In the event South Carolina does elect to form such a task force, the Companies would appoint Nelson Peeler as their point of contact for the task force. Nelson currently serves as the Senior Vice President of Transmission and Fuels Strategy and Policy for the Companies and his contact information is as follows:

Nelson Peeler

Office: 704.382.3851

Mobile: 864.270.0462

Email: nelson.peeler@duke-energy.com

The Companies believe South Carolina's utilities and customers will be well served with Nelson's addition to the task force.

Again, the Companies appreciate ORS's continuous engagement with the Companies throughout this process and support the findings of the Final Report. The Companies also appreciate the Commission's facilitation of the Final Report and direction in setting the eight (8) key topics of interest that the electric and natural gas utilities should address through their comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Camal O. Robinson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Camal O. Robinson

cc: Parties of record